(d) if so, what are the details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Government are aware of reports to this effect.

(b) Government have consistently sought a peaceful and bilateral settlement of all problems with Pakistan in accordance with the Shimla Agreement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During his visit in January 1993 the British Prime Minister stated that the best way forward was through a genuine political dialogue between India and Pakistan under the Shimla Agreement, a political process and respect for human rights in Kashmir, and a cessation of external support for the militants who operate in Kashmir.

प्रधान मंत्री के ढाका दौरे के दौरान कश्मीर का मुद्दा

1065. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह:** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ढाका में आयोजित सम्मेलन में प्रधान मंत्री ने पाकिस्तान के तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री के साथ कश्मीर मुद्दे पर बातचीत की थी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो बातचीत के मुख्य मुद्दे कौन-कौन से थे और उन पर पाकिस्तान के प्रधान मंत्री की प्रतिक्रिया क्या थी ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० भाटिया) : (क) और (ख) प्रधान मंत्री 11 अप्रैल, 1993 को ढाका में हुए सार्क शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान पाकिस्तान के प्रधान मंत्री से मिले थे ।

हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने पाकिस्तान के प्रधान मंत्री को बताया कि वक्तव्यों और आश्वासनों के बावजूद पाकिस्तान ने बम्बई बम-कांड में संदिग्ध मेमन परिवार के सदस्यों को, जो पाकिस्तान में है, खोजकर भारत लौटाने की कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की है और जब तक यह मामला नहीं सुलझता तथा पाकिस्तान आतंकवाद और भारत विरोधी गतिविधियों को अपना समर्थन देना बन्द नहीं करता जब तक द्विपक्षीय मामलों के लिए कोई बात चीत का माहौल नहीं बन सकता ।

India's Nuclear Capacity

1066. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent news reports that it was declared from Washington that Israel, Pakistan and India are the countries that could be declared as Nuclear Powers; and

(b) what are India's preparations for defending our sovereignty in case of nuclear attack by Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen press reports which are based on an article that appeared in an American academic journal—Foreign Affairs.

(b) The security situation of India remains constantly under review, particularly in the light of devclopments in the neighbourhood and Government take all necessary measures designed to cope with any threat that may be posed to the security of the nation.

Sale of Warships to Pakistan by U.K.

1067. DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether British Government has offered to sell or lease frigators and destroyers to Pakistan;

(b) the number of warships and their capability proposed to be sold by British Government;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to match Indian warships with that of Pakistan after acquiring the warships;

(d) whether supply of warships is against the assurance given by the British Government to Indian Government; and

(e) if so, whether British Government has been asked to stop supply of warships ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Government are aware of reports of the British Government's interest in selling some naval vessels, which are being decommissioned by the British Navy, to various countries including Pakistan.

(b) As per reports, the British Government have offered for sale six type 21 (Amazon Class) and four Leander Class frigates. These warships conform to specifications typical of British frigates of their type and carry weapons systems which give them a multiple role.

(c) Government keep a close watch on all developments which have a bearing on national security and take appropriate measures to ensure full defence preparedness at all times.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Government's general concern about Pakistan's acquiring weapons systems beyond its legitimate defence requirements have been and are being conveyed to all concerned foreign Governments.

Case against Indian ambassy in U.K.

1068. SHRI J.S. RAJU :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item entitled "Indian Government asked to pay lawyer's fee" appearing in the Pioneer (Kanpur issue) dated the 10th April, 1993;

(b) if so, total amount which the Indian Government has to bear in this case and its break-up;

(c) whether the counter claim was filed;

(d) if so, the decision of Government thereon; and

(e) who is responsible for negligence which resulted in court case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The news item refers to legal proceedings initiated in the London High Court by M/s Zaiwalla & Co., a firm of Solicitors, against the Government of India and some Indian Public Sector Undertakings, over the payment of legal fees.

(b) On 7 April, 1993, the London High Court delivered its judgement on the principal issues presented to the Court. The judgement does not contain orders on financial aspects and costs involved which are yet to be determined by the Court.

(c) No, Sir. No counter claim or appeal has been filed by the Government after the judgement was delivered.